



Regular Meeting Minutes
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, November 2, 2005
Vista Del Camino Park Community Center
Activity Room
5:00 P.M.

Present: Chairperson Donn Loper, Commissioners Shelley Anderson, John Faramelli, and Ron King

Absent: Vice-chair Dean Cerimeli, Commissioner Stephen Owens

Staff present: Leslie Clark, Jona Davis, Steve Lehmann, Gary Meyer, Bill Murphy, Karen Rumore, and Judy Weiss

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Loper called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairperson Loper asked everyone to observe a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Regular Meeting of October 5, 2005

Chairperson Loper mentioned that the minutes online showed corrections he had requested and minutes sent to the commission via mail did not show the corrections. He made mention that we could make the corrections and approve them at the next meeting or advise what needs to be corrected and approve them with the correction now. The change was on Page 3 of 10 fourth paragraph 3 line it should read "...signatures, only 4 border Mescal Park;" Commissioner Faramelli moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Commissioner Anderson seconded and the motion carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Chairperson Loper mentioned that we are down 2 Commissioners and if you are interested or know someone that is interested he encourages the public to submit his or her interest.

1. PARTNERSHIP FUNDING REQUESTS

Steve Lehmann, Senior Recreation Coordinator, presented four partnership-funding requests for consideration. He advised that Partnership Funding Program is an opportunity for Youth Sports Organizations to partner with the City to improve public facilities that are utilized by the youth groups. Mr. Lehmann covered the process of obtaining funds and youth sports organization eligibility for the program.

The first request was for McDowell Mountain Ranch Little League: New backstop and player areas for the north field, the modifications will be at Copper Ridge Elementary School. Total cost for the modifications is approximately \$60,000 requesting up to \$30,000. Chairperson Loper asked if any there were any concerns regarding the drainage. Mr. Lehmann advised that presently there was some drainage problems now and there would be some grading to steer the water to another direction. Also included in the improvement was moving a light pole. Chairperson Loper wanted to know if neighbors needed to be notified of the light getting moved and was the light included in the budget? Mr. Lehmann responded, yes all will be included in the budget. Ms. Weiss, noted that the light move is not considered significant enough to advise the neighbors. Mr. Lehman added that the light was already there.

Commissioner Faramelli inquired about the parking or is the City adding any additional parking. Mr. Lehmann pointed out all the parking available now and advised there are no additional plans for parking.

Commissioner Anderson asked why is there a need to move the backstop? Mr. Lehmann, there is a need to move the backstop for easier access from the school. Anderson why was the backstop put here in the first place?

Mr. Lehmann mentioned he put the backstop there before the school was built, and it seems the right place to put it at the time. Commissioner Anderson asked if the school would be using it. Mr. Lehmann replied, yes. Chairperson Loper asked if staff had had input from the school? Mr. Lehman advised that the input has been positive.

Second request was for South Scottsdale Little League: Player area modifications and fence repair at Supai Middle School fields. Estimated cost for the project is up to \$12,000. The group is requesting partnership funding for ½ of the project cost or up to \$6,000.

Mr. Lehmann mentioned the ball field player areas are old and in a state of disrepair. The player bench areas do not adequately protect players. Fence around the player benches will be increased in size and shade screen for the player area. Pop Warner and Little League as well as the school teams uses these facilities.

Chairperson Loper – relative effort is being made to moving fencing at Copper Ridge and only repairing fence here why? Mr. Lehmann advised that we are requesting to modify the playing area which includes an eight ft fenced area plus the lighting at Copper Ridge.

Third request came from Scottsdale Aquatic Club. They are requesting replacement of lane lines at Cactus Pool. The estimated cost for the project is up to \$8,275. Group is requesting partnership funding for half of the project cost up to \$4,138.

Commissioner Anderson asked if these groups that partner with the expenses, do they get more practice time? Mr. Lehmann indicated that there is not a guarantee of exclusive use however; it does help with any consideration per the sports facility allocation policy. A member of the commission asked why these lane markers needed to be replaced. Jona Davis, Aquatics Coordinator mentioned that the lane lines have a 5 year lifespan and that these lane lines were 6 years old. In addition the ultraviolet light and the chlorine eventually causes the buoyancy to dissipate. This is also a safety concern since the lane lines are supposed to keep lane swimmers from going into another lane. Commissioner Anderson noted some concern that the organization assisting with the funding would get some exclusive use. Ms. Weiss advised that all improvements made with partnership funding benefit the citizens of Scottsdale, not just the organization.

Scottsdale Miss Softball: Building Improvements at Mohave School Fields and backstop replacement at Mountain View Park. Total estimated cost is \$40,000 for building and up to \$10,000 shared cost for the backstop. Group is requesting funding for half of the building project cost or up to \$20,000 and up to \$10,000 for backstop player area.

Mr. Lehmann noted that the proposal was to remodel the existing concession building at the southeast field at Mohave School into a restroom facility. No restroom facilities are available to the field users at this location. This restroom facility will be available for all groups who utilize Mohave for games. Chairperson Loper mentioned that he could attest that this area is in need of a restroom.

Commissioner Faramelli asked who was going to be responsible for the maintenance of the restroom. Mr. Lehmann indicated that discussions have taken place and an option was that the City would handle

the maintenance for a small fee. However at this point Miss Softball is responsible for maintenance during the season. Chairperson Loper, asked if the group would step up to care for the maintenance during the season, what about after the season? Mr. Lehmann indicated that he would need to research what the cost would be for the City to cover the maintenance. Commissioner Faramelli would feel more comfortable if the City would take over the maintenance of the restrooms. Ms. Weiss advised that this is school property and the City's preference is to have the school take care of this, although we could certainly explore a professional service for this. Commissioner Faramelli noted that the City does maintain some school restrooms such as Copper Ridge. Mr. Lehmann replied that Copper Ridge is a unique situation and yes the city does maintain them. Pima School restroom is maintained by Little League. At Desert Canyon the City built a restroom between two ball fields and yes the City maintains it as well as the restroom Grayhawk Neighborhood Park.

Commissioner Faramelli asked is the design cost included in the \$60,000? A representative of Miss Softball advised yes. Mr. Lehmann advised that the City does have to approve the final design.

Commissioner Anderson asked if we were to approve these projects do we have other projects out there that might not get approved? Mr. Lehmann advised that staff budgets \$70,000 every budget year for partnership improvements. If other requests come forward asking for funding and these funds are spent we would need to wait until the next budget to request funding. Commissioner Anderson asked is their any other group that were not able to get funding prepared in time? Mr. Lehmann replied that these are the only groups that have come this far along in the process.

Commission Faramelli asked are there any groups from last year that didn't get their funding together in time to meet the requirement of getting the project started by the end of the fiscal year? Mr. Lehmann said there is no specific language that indicates what getting started specifically means. Commissioner Faramelli stated that they just need to raise the comfort level that the project is getting going within the year. Mr. Lehmann answered yes.

Chairperson Loper asked if the staff at the City of Scottsdale was designing the Mohave restroom? Ms. Weiss replied that Miss Softball would submit a design to the City. Chairperson Loper mentioned that there was a park that he frequented in San Diego and in conversation with someone there he found out about a women who involved herself with the Commission just because of the fate of a park there they designed a restroom exactly the way she knew the community would want it. The Chairman offered contact information for this individual in San Diego.

Commissioner Anderson advised that she does not oppose what has been brought forward but had a concern that all the funds would be gone so early in the year. She suggested when staff is requesting to approve funding that the Commission is apprised of other projects that are in the pipeline.

Mr. Lehmann continued with explaining the new backstop at Mountain View Park. This design will also make the field a little larger. Chairperson Loper advised that currently there is bleacher seating directly behind he would prefer to see it on the side as oppose to behind.

Commissioner Anderson moved to accept the partnership-funding request as Mr. Lehmann had presented. Commissioner King second the motion passed unanimously.

2. UPDATE ON CHAPARRAL PARK EXTENSION PLANS

Gary Meyer, Facilities Planning Manager, updated the commission on plans and tentative construction timelines for a 20-acre extension of Chaparral Park at Hayden Road and McDonald Drive. Mr. Meyer said the intersection improvements at McDonald/Hayden are now underway. This will include new right turn lanes and road widening. The \$50 million water treatment plant is taking shape. In the near future, the construction will be moving indoors and the construction trailers will be moved out of the way.

The next phase of construction will be the xeriscape demonstration garden – which is being paid for by the Water Department. Christy Ten Eyck (landscape architect) designed this area along with all of the park improvements on the 20-acre expansion.

A 4.2-acre off leash area will be the next phase of construction. The three activity areas are designed to allow one area to be closed off during re-landscaping. There will be drinking fountains for people and for the dogs in a beautiful entry plaza at the south entry to the off leash area. Shade trees and seating benches will be provided along the perimeter of each area. Wire mesh fencing with a vinyl coating will be installed all around the off leash area.

The 2 new ball fields are designed as multi-use, with soccer overlays in the outfield. A restroom building will be constructed between the 2 fields. There will also be a public restroom at the southwest corner of the water treatment plant – which serves the park.

The current schedule calls for the xeriscape garden to begin construction in February 2006. The off leash area and ball fields will start in March 2006. The new off leash area will be constructed, and then the temporary off leash area will be removed to make way for the new ball fields. Remodeling of the quad fields (to the south) will occur in 2007.

Commissioner Anderson asked – what kind of feedback are you getting from the neighborhood? Mr. Meyer replied that there has been positive feedback. An open house meeting was held recently and the comments were positive.

Commissioner Faramelli asked about the design of the water treatment plant. Mr. Meyer stated that there are plans to place shade fabric canopies along the northwest side of the building to soften the form, along with landscaping.

Commissioner King asked if there would be trails around the lake (north of McDonald Drive). Mr. Meyer replied that there will be a pathway around the lake – however, this portion of the park will remain passive in nature.

Ms. Weiss responded that the neighborhood does not wish to have a great deal of activity around the lake.

Commissioners had further detailed questions regarding the design of the park and traffic control along Hayden Road. They also asked about the public approval process for this master plan. Mr. Meyer explained that the master plan was approved several years ago. This item was an informational update.

3. UPDATE ON THE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS AT CACTUS AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTER

Karen Rumore, Recreation Coordinator, gave an update on Cactus Park. Cactus Park was dedicated in 1987 and is a 17.5-acre park. Amenities include a 50m-heated competitive pool, weight room, cardio room, lighted sand volleyball court, large open grass space, playground, and 2 reserveable large ramadas. Fees for the pool and fitness center are on a drop in basis, no membership required. This past

fiscal year, park Ramada's accommodated 235 reservations. Ms. Rumore reviewed the budget and some of the events that take place at the park.

Chairperson Loper asked how does the information compare with previous years and other parks – Ms. Rumore advised Cactus has only 2 reserveable ramadas compared to Eldorado.

Ms. Rumore continued with describing the Fitness Center, which is a 4000 square foot Cardio Room with various fitness equipment. The Dance room has a hardwood floor and hosts several aerobic, yoga and tot classes. Chairperson Loper asked is the yoga instructor a Scottsdale employee and how would he contact the instructor. Ms. Rumore advised to talk with her after the meeting and she would advise him.

Commissioner Anderson advised the revenue reported is kind of sad does this include Aquatics? Ms. Rumore advised that this amount is without Aquatics. The operating budget does not include Aquatics either. Ms. Weiss advised that there was a 20 to 30 percent cost recovery for recreation programs. These costs also do not even consider park maintenance costs.

Ms. Rumore advised the Aquatics budget is \$889,251 and revenue collected was \$281,274. Ms. Weiss also advised that the only fee that would be increased was the family swim pass. Ms. Weiss also noted that costs will increase when McDowell Mountain Ranch comes online in operating and in revenue.

Ms. Rumore noted that her position also includes the monitoring of the volunteer database, application and fingerprinting of volunteers. Currently parks and recreation has 85 volunteers working at various parks and program areas. For example for this past Monday October 31st Fall Festival 100 – 150 volunteers were utilized, Mighty Mud Mania uses approximately 200 volunteers. She provided a volunteer brochure to the commission.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

Ms. Weiss started with photograph updates McDowell Mountain Ranch Park and Aquatic Center project. She also showed block walls that are going up which are the outer boundary of the park. Next she updated the commission on CAP Basin. The maintenance building is going up at this time, and the lights are being adjusted so the lights are on during the day.

At Monday's Fall Festival there were 4500 citizens. New this year were rented booths.

Stadium update Bill Murphy, Director of Parks and Grounds showed pictures of the new novelty building that is going up and the remodeled weight room, which will now be located on top, with the remainder of the clubhouse still underground. East of the stadium is a new practice field that is currently getting constructed and soon the landscaping will be added.

Ms. Weiss added all the staff changes that have taken place since our last meeting. Ruth has moved to Risk Management, Bill Tobey Coordinator at Vista del Camino has accepted a position in Virginia and Christy Hill has replaced him. She was originally job sharing with Erin McKallor-Quill at Mountain View Park. Erin will continue to job with Tara Worth who was Sr. Coordinator of Eldorado and Adapted Recreation. Staff is currently looking for someone to take Tara position. Gary Meyer, Facilities Planning Manager is retiring at the end of Thanksgiving. Doug Nohren has also announced his retirement in January. We will miss them both.

Leslie Clark and Ms. Weiss just came back from 2005 NRPA Congress & Exposition in San Antonio. Next year it will be held in Seattle second or third week in October. The NRPA is ½ citizen driven and ½ professional driven. Staff is budgeting for the some of the Commission to attend the APRA boards and commission day in August, in Mesa.

The schedule for the next several meetings was discussed noting that the Commission will not have two new member until mid December.

Ms. Weiss asked the Commission if the current meeting schedule was to their liking. Chairperson Loper advised that he wants to keep it the way it is now, plan to meet twice a month and if there is something that happens we adjust accordingly. Commissioner Anderson thinks we should cancel December 21st meeting since it was very close to Christmas.

Ms. Weiss reminded the Commission that the Mescal Park issue is going before the Planning Commission on December 14th.

Chairperson Loper stated he was woefully inept in attending the function put on by the Park and Recreation Staff. He realizes that and wants to change this immediately. He wants a calendar showing when all the functions will occur, sit down with the commission and decide which member wants to attend what events so that there would be some representation from the commission. Ms. Weiss committed by the end of the week she would email the commission with the calendar highlighting the 05-06 events, but suggested that they wait until the new Commissioner came on, January would probably be a good time for this. A work-study session's half hour ahead of the commission meeting could be scheduled to discuss.

Ms. Weiss mentioned some events coming up November 4th through the 7th are the Jeff Meyers Memorial Junior Open at Scottsdale Ranch Park and Holiday Harmony on December 4th.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC (A.R.S. § 38-431.02)

Chairperson Loper called for any items from the floor or the Commission. There were none.

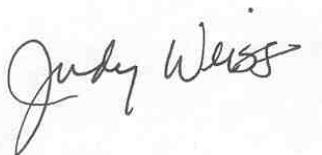
ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner King seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

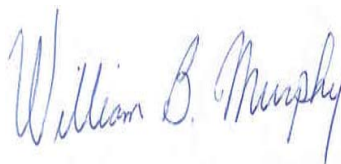
With no further business to be brought before the Commission, Chairperson Loper adjourned the meeting at 6:46 pm

Respectfully submitted by Gloria Bianco, Recording Secretary

Meets established criteria



Judy Weiss, Director
Parks & Recreation



William B. Murphy, Director
Parks & Grounds Management